

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A wire protector for protecting a wire during mounting of the wire on a mounting surface, the protector comprising:

a retaining member configured to engage the wire, the retaining member comprising a top portion and first and second arms extending generally perpendicularly from the top portion, wherein junctures between the top portion and the first and second arms are arcuate to engage the wire therein; and

at least one securing member connected with the retaining member and adapted to position the retaining member on a surface[.];

wherein the securing member comprises at least one pointed tip extending from a lower edge thereof and configured to grip the surface.

2. (Original) The wire protector of Claim 1, wherein a first distance between the junctures is between about 0.5 inches and 0.7 inches.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The wire protector of Claim [[3]] 1, wherein the securing member comprises a plurality of pointed tips extending from the lower edge thereof.

5. (Original) The wire protector of Claim 1, wherein the retaining member comprises a generally flat surface configured to extend a second distance along the length of

the wire when mounted on the mounting surface.

6. (Original) The wire protector of Claim 5, wherein the second distance is between about 0.2 and about 0.5 inches.

7. (Original) The wire protector of Claim 1, wherein the protector is formed of a polymeric material.

8. (Original) The wire protector of Claim 1, wherein the protector is formed as a unitary member.

9. (Original) The wire protector of Claim 1, further comprising an adhesive on a side of the retaining member positioned to adhere the retaining member to the wire.

10. (Original) A mounted wire assembly, comprising:  
a wire resting against a surface;  
a protector overlying the wire, the protector comprising:  
a retaining member configured to engage the wire, the retaining member comprising a top portion and first and second arms extending generally perpendicularly from the top portion; and  
at least one securing member connected with the retaining member and adapted to position the retaining member on a surface; and  
a staple overlying the protector, the staple securing the wire and the protector to the surface.

11. (Original) The wire assembly of Claim 10, wherein junctures between the top portion and the first and second arms are arcuate to engage the wire therein.

12. (Original) The wire assembly of Claim 11, wherein a first distance between the

junctures is between about 0.5 inches and 0.7 inches.

13. (Original) The wire assembly of Claim 10, wherein the securing member comprises at least one pointed tip extending from a lower edge thereof and configured to grip the surface.

14. (Original) The wire assembly of Claim 13, wherein the securing member comprises a plurality of pointed tips extending from the lower edge thereof.

15. (Original) The wire assembly of Claim 10, wherein the retaining member comprises a generally flat surface configured to extend a second distance along the length of the wire when mounted on the mounting surface.

16. (Original) The wire assembly of Claim 15, wherein the second distance is between about 0.2 and about 0.3 inches.

17. (Original) The wire assembly of Claim 10, wherein the protector is formed of a polymeric material.

18. (Original) The wire assembly of Claim 10, wherein the protector is formed as a unitary member.

19. (Original) The wire assembly of Claim 10, wherein the protector further comprising an adhesive on a side of the retaining member between the retaining member and the wire that adheres the retaining member to the wire.

20. (Original) A method for protecting a wire during mounting of the wire on a mounting surface, the method comprising:

positioning a protector over a wire, the protector comprising:

a retaining member configured to engage the wire, the retaining member comprising a top portion and first and second arms extending generally perpendicularly from the top portion; and

at least one securing member connected with the retaining member and adapted to position the retaining member on a surface; and

securing the protector to the underlying surface with the securing member;

applying a staple to the surface over the protector, the staple securing the wire and the protector to the surface.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 20, further comprising engaging the wire in arcuate junctures between the top portion and the first and second arms of the protector.

22. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein a first distance between the junctures is between about 0.5 inches and 0.7 inches.

23. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein the securing member comprises at least one pointed tip extending from a lower edge thereof and configured to grip the surface.

24. (Original) The method of Claim 23, wherein the securing member comprises a plurality of pointed tips extending from the lower edge thereof.

25. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein the retaining member comprises a generally flat surface configured to extend a second distance along the length of the wire when mounted on the mounting surface.

26. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein the second distance is between about 0.2 and about 0.3 inches.

In re: Ryals et al.  
Serial No. 10/751,050  
Filed: January 2, 2004  
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27. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein the protector is formed of a polymeric material.

28. (Original) The method of Claim 20, wherein the protector is formed as a unitary member.

29. (Original) The method of Claim 20, further comprising applying an adhesive on a side of the retaining member positioned to adhere the retaining member to the wire.